

January 26, 1976

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Senator Swigart.

SENATOR SWIGART: Mr. Chairman, colleagues. I think we ought to have it called to our attention that sometimes you can spectacularize a case of an abuse or two. I think if you figured up all the great number of people that have worked under Ted Jannings and his Department, that when you have a couple or three abuses that's always possible if you employ in any fashion, whether volunteer or not. If you have 100 people, over a period of time there will be abuses.

I don't suppose it's beyond comprehension that even a legislator would maybe even make an infraction sometime, someplace, not beyond comprehension. So perhaps it's human nature that when you have 100 people working for you, volunteers or not, there will be an abuse or two once in awhile. I think the ratio is very good of good, qualified people. Janning tells me that he gives them not less than, over a period of time, 80 hours of training. He does a splendid job, I think, of selecting people as volunteers. They are not political appointments. They are people that are qualified and not just emotionally spontaneously desirous of riding in a deputies car. They are good people generally speaking. The selection is done with great care. I think it's a method to save hundreds of thousands of dollars. To get voluntary help.... I don't know how he would do the work that he does without these volunteers.

Sheriff Janning is innovative, he's constructive, he's honest and I think he deserves our support. We ought to keep in mind that this does cover, I find out, the whole state and not just Ted Janning and his group.

I think it deserves our support. We ought to be very careful what we're doing here that we don't place in jeopardy the sheriff and his staff in every county in the state.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Senator Kime.

SENATOR KIME: Mr. Chairman, members of this Board. What we're asking is for this bill to be just held here until we hear this bill that's coming up. There is a vast difference in these two bills. LB 432 will be heard on March 11th in the Judiciary Committee. Senator Chambers is a member of that Committee. If he wants to kill it in the Committee he'll have a chance. LB 432 would allow the county board to select, train, arm and furnish the equipment for these special deputies. I don't know who could be less interested in the training of these people than the county board. This should be up to the sheriff.

LB 782 designates the sheriff, the chief of police and the mayor to select these men, designate their training, their equipment and whether or not they have arms. As far as the training is concerned 782 makes a Nebraska Commission of Law Enforcement the party who will train these people and not just anybody that the county commissioner might want to designate.